

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

July 25, 2006

The \$98 million Child Welfare Improvement Fund established by the State represents a significant statewide investment to improve outcomes for children in foster care. The guidelines as dictated by the State are broad in scope, but allow for local priorities to be identified for funding. I have great hope that these dollars will be put to great use in helping the Department continue to fulfill their dual mission of safety and permanency, by decreasing time in out-to-home placement, reducing caseloads, providing for additional mental health services, developing prevention strategies and enhancing permanency programs for older foster kids. I also believe that this funding could be leveraged to assist us in meeting our County's goal to make mentoring services available to all youth in foster care by 2010, by clearly linking mentoring to achieving the Department's broader outcome goals, specifically; increased child safety, more timely exits to permanency, as well as improved child well-being.

The Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) Taskforce on Mentoring

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MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

recently submitted their report to the Board, in which they identify this new funding as a viable resource to support mentoring efforts in Los Angeles County.

I, THEREFORE MOVE, that the Department of Children and Family Services, in consultation with ICAN, report back within 45 days to the Board as to how this fund can be leveraged to further mentoring efforts.

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